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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNI CATIONS AND ENERGY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

D. T. E. 00-81

Petition of Blackstone Gas Company, for Approval of its Long-Range Forecast and Resource Plan for the five-year period November 1, 2001 through October 31, 2005 pursuant to G. L. c. 164, $\S\S$ 69 (I) et seq.

The Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department") has received the petition of Blackstone Gas Company ("Blackstone" or "Company") for approval of its Long Range Forecast and Resource Plan, encompassing November 1, 2001 through October 31, 2005. The Department will review the Company's sendout forecast for the appropriateness and accuracy of the forecast, and will review the company's supply plan for its adequacy and cost.

Upon the foregoing petition, the Department will conduct a public hearing on Thursday

December 7, 2000, at 10:00 a.m. at the Department's offices, One South Station, 2nd Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110.

The Company is required to give notice of this public hearing at least fourteen (14) days prior to December 7, 2000, in the Call of Woonsocket, R.I. and either the Boston Globe or the Boston Herald. The Company shall serve a copy thereof by mail at least fourteen (14) days prior to December 7, 2000, on the mayors, the city clerks, chairpersons of the boards of selectmen, and town clerks of the cities and towns in the Blackstone service territory.

A copy of the Company's petition and filing is available for inspection at the Department's offices at One South Station, 2nd Floor, Boston, Massachusetts; at the Page 1

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offices of the Company, 3C Main St. Blackstone, Massachusetts; and at the main branch of the public library in Blackstone.

Any person who desires to participate in the evidentiary phase of the proceeding concerning the above petition must file an original and two copies of a written petition for leave to intervene or to participate in the proceeding not later than the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on Thursday, November 30, 2000 with Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications and Energy, One South Station, 2nd Floor, Boston, MA. 02110 and one copy with the Company's attorney:

Andrew J. Newman, Esq. Rubin and Rudman, LLP 50 Rowes Wharf Boston, MA 02110-3319 (617) 330-7000

A petition to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 C.M.R. § 1.03, including a description of the manner in which the petitioner is substantially and specifically affected by this proceeding. Receipt by the Department -- not mailing -- constitutes filing and determines whether a petition has been timely filed. A late filed petition may be disallowed as untimely, unless good cause is shown under 220 C.M.R. § 1.01 (4) to be allowed, a petition under 220 C.M.R. § 1.03 (1) must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10.

Copies of all documents that are filed with the Department in this proceeding, including one of two means: (a) email attachment to dte.efiling@state.ma.us using a WordPerfect compatible format (version 5.2 through 8.0), naming the document file with a wpd suffix or using Microsoft Word 95 or 97 and identifying in the e-mail the case caption, docket number, party and title of the document; or (b) on a 3.5" diskette, IBM-compatible format, using a file format compatible with WordPerfect (version 5.2 through 8.0) again identifying the case caption, docket number, party and title of the proceeding on the diskette. In either case, the electronic filing should include the name, title, and phone number of a contract in the event of the questions.

The petitioner is also required to make return of service and publication at the time of the hearing.

By Order of the Department,

MARY L. COTTRELL, SECRETARY